

****Invasive pest alert****

Spotted Lanternfly
(*Lycorma delicatula*)

If seen, please report: <https://massnrc.org/pests/slfreport.aspx>

Take a photo, if possible

Look for the following life stages:



Egg mass with gray, putty-like protective covering (about 1 inch long, and laid on any smooth, flat surface)



SLF nymph, 2nd instar (1st instar looks similar but is slightly smaller)



SLF nymph, 3rd instar



SLF nymph, final instar



SLF adult at rest, side view



SLF in flight, bright red underwings exposed

The Spotted Lanternfly (SLF) is a highly destructive, invasive insect pest. It can feed and lay eggs on 100+ plant species. This insect can significantly weaken trees and become an extreme nuisance to homeowners by attracting additional pests and damaging property.

It is important to monitor for the presence of SLF. The first Massachusetts population of SLF was found in September 2021 in the City of Fitchburg. This pest is already established in neighboring states, including Connecticut, Delaware, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.

The preferred host for SLF is tree-of-heaven (an invasive) but it will use several native tree species during its life cycle, including oaks, maples, pines, white ash, and American beech. It is also damaging to agricultural crops, such as apple and grape.

SLF egg masses can be found on inanimate surfaces too: tires, trailers, lawn furniture, stone, fencing, etc., allowing it to be transported long distances. Inspect items before travelling.

Learn more about the Spotted Lanternfly:

<https://ag.umass.edu/landscape/fact-sheets/spotted-lanternfly>

<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/resources/pests-diseases>

Thank you for helping our urban canopy!
Urban Forestry Committee, City of Somerville